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February 14, 2003

Mr. Steven M. Scharf, P.E., Project Manager
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
Bureau of Eastern Remedial Action
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12233-7010

Re: Grumman Aerospace – Bethpage (NY Site 1-30-003A) &
Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant –
Bethpage (NY Site 1-30-003B) Site
Record of Decision as issued by the Navy

Dear Mr. Scharf:

We are in receipt of your request for an expeditious review and response regarding the Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the Navy. We have reviewed the ROD on behalf of the South Farmingdale Water District (SFWD) and the New York Water Service (NYWS) and have the following comments:

Pages DS-3 and 3 - We believe that the data in the vicinity of Well 75D2 already demonstrates the need for extraction and treatment and request that the Navy implement a remedy to minimize any further migration of this concentrated VOC plume to the south. Consideration should be given to pumping the extracted water back to the Grumman-Navy site where additional treatment facilities could be constructed adjacent to the on-site treatment system (ONCT).

Pages DS-3 and 3 – We are reiterating our comments that we previously provided on the proposed groundwater remedial program at GM-38. The proposed program should include a collection of extraction wells that optimizes the effectiveness of the remedial action in removing contaminants in the GM-38 area and reduces the potential impact of the contaminant plume on downgradient water supply wells. While the modeling results presented at the June 26, 2002 and October 22, 2002 TAC meetings suggested little difference to the downgradient wells regardless of whether two or three extraction wells were installed, it is our opinion that this conclusion is biased due to the proposed location and minimal pumping rate of the third extraction well and the slow rate of groundwater travel in the deeper Magothy aquifer. It is our opinion that if extraction well(s) at more significant pumping rates (1000 gpm +) were installed further south (on Hempstead Turnpike, in the vicinity of Mid-Island Hospital) coupled with looking at a longer period of time (in excess of 30 years), the benefit of adding additional extraction well(s) would be more significant to downgradient water suppliers. The proposed GM-38 area is upgradient of SFWD's largest well field (plant 1) where the SFWD has three of its eleven wells. Consequently, we are recommending that additional extraction wells with adequate pumping capacity (1000 gpm +) be added in the vicinity of Mid-Island Hospital to minimize the size and

cc: SFWD Board of Commissioners
Vincent A. Bohn, Jr., Vice President, NYWS
Superintendent William Bier, SFWD
Matthew Snyder, NYWS
Joseph Trotta, NYWS